

Introduced by Senator PolancoFebruary 19, 1999

An act to amend Section 11166.9 of the Penal Code, relating to child abuse.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 525, as introduced, Polanco. Child abuse: state and local coordination.

Existing law provides for coordination between specified state and local entities to address fatal child abuse and neglect, and to provide a body of information to prevent child deaths.

This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to those provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 11166.9 of the Penal Code is
2 amended to read:

3 11166.9. (a) (1) The purpose of this section shall be
4 to coordinate and integrate state and local efforts to
5 address fatal child abuse and neglect, and to create a body
6 of information to prevent child deaths.

7 (2) It is the intent of the Legislature that the California
8 State Child Death Review Council, the Department of
9 Justice, the State Department of Social Services, the State
10 Department of Health Services, and state and local child
11 death review teams shall share data and other



1 information necessary to reconcile and integrate the
2 Department of Justice Child Abuse Central Index and
3 Supplemental Homicide File and the State Department
4 of Health Services Vital Statistics as those documents
5 relate to child fatality cases.

6 (b) (1) The Department of Justice is hereby
7 authorized to carry out the purpose of this section with
8 the cooperation of the State Department of Social
9 Services, the State Department of Health Services, the
10 California Coroner's Association, the County Welfare
11 Directors Association, ~~the California Consortium to~~
12 ~~Prevent Child Abuse~~ *Prevent Child Abuse-California*,
13 and the California Homicide Investigators Association.
14 These entities working cooperatively together for the
15 purposes of this section shall be known as the California
16 State Child Death Review Council, to be administered by
17 the Department of Justice. It shall be the duty of the
18 California State Child Death Review Council to oversee
19 the statewide coordination and integration of state and
20 local efforts to address fatal child abuse and neglect, and
21 to create a body of information to prevent child deaths.

22 (2) The Department of Justice, after consultation with
23 the agencies and organizations in paragraph (1), may
24 consult with other representatives of other agencies and
25 private organizations, to help accomplish the purpose of
26 this section.

27 (c) Meetings of the agencies and organizations
28 involved shall be convened by a representative of the
29 Department of Justice. All meetings convened between
30 the Department of Justice and any organizations
31 required to carry out the purpose of this section shall take
32 place in this state, not to exceed four meetings per
33 calendar year.

34 (d) To accomplish the purpose of this section, the
35 Department of Justice and agencies and organizations
36 involved may engage in the following activities:

37 (1) Collect, analyze, and interpret state and local data
38 on child death in an annual report to be submitted to local
39 child death review teams with copies to the Governor and
40 the Legislature, no later than July 1 each year. The report

1 shall contain, but not be limited to, information provided
2 by state agencies and the county child death review
3 teams for the preceding year.

4 (2) Develop a state and local data base on child death.

5 (A) The state data may include the Department of
6 Justice Child Abuse Index and Supplemental Homicide
7 File, the State Department of Health Services Vital
8 Statistics, and the State Department of Social Services
9 Foster Care Information System.

10 (B) The Department of Justice, in consultation with
11 the agencies and organizations in paragraph (1) of
12 subdivision (b), may develop a model minimal local data
13 set and request data from local teams for inclusion in the
14 annual report.

15 (3) Distribute a copy of the report to public officials in
16 the state who deal with child abuse issues and to those
17 agencies responsible for child death investigation in each
18 county.

19 (4) Coordinate statewide and local training for county
20 death review teams and the members of the teams,
21 including, but not limited to, training in the application
22 of the Interagency Child Death Investigation Protocols
23 and procedures to identify child deaths associated with
24 abuse established under Sections 11166.7 and 11166.8.

25 (e) The Department of Justice may direct the creation
26 of a statewide child death review team directory, which
27 shall contain the names of the members of the agencies
28 and private organizations participating under this
29 section, and the members of local child death review
30 teams and local liaisons to those teams. The Department
31 of Justice may maintain and update the directory
32 annually.

33 (f) The agencies or private organizations participating
34 under this section shall participate without
35 reimbursement from the state. Costs incurred by
36 participants for travel or per diem shall be borne by the
37 participant agency or organization. The participants shall
38 be responsible for collecting and compiling information
39 to be included in the annual report. The Department of
40 Justice shall be responsible for printing and distributing

1 the annual report using available funds and existing
2 resources.

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